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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson ...... *Editors and Publishers*

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A NOTE ON RESTOCKING

This is the time of year when sportsmen should consider restocking hunting areas. Just as fishermen and pond-owners stock their ponds, hunters and those who own hunting land and want game to multiply, should consider restocking their acreage.

This is a practice that has not been followed in the past as much as it should have been. In the old days, when there was a plentiful supply of game and comparatively few hunters, things worked out without much restocking. However, the time has arrived when restocking must be considered a modern necessity, if game conditions are to be maintained as they are today or even improved.

The restocking of pheasants in some sections of the country, of quail in others, and of other birds and animals, is a process which requires study and careful attention. Pen-reared birds and animals, if they are to have maximum chances for survival when released, should be released under favorable conditions and should be prepared, as well as possible, for release.

In the case of quail, an exceptionably adaptable bird and one which can be restocked comparatively easily in all sections of the country, the birds should be put out at an early age, from six to ten weeks old, and should be placed where there is sufficient food, water and cover.

Quail are full grown at sixteen weeks and are wild one week after they have been released in the open country. They will oot travel far from the point of release, if they find food, water and cover.

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RECORDING JURY DISCUSSIONS

Professor Harry Kalven, director of Chicago University's controversial jury project, says recordings have been made of jury deliberations in five civil cases held in the 10th Federal Circuit Court at Wichita, Kansas. Kalven said the recordings were made with the consent and approval of the chief judge, the trial judge and attorneys for all parties, including the U. S. District Attorney.

This news has stirred up a contorversy, and Senator James Eastland, Mississippi Democrat, has said he will open hearings on the question of planting hidden microphones in jury deliberation rooms. In addition, Attorney-General Herbert Brownell has said that he will seek laws to prevent this kind of "study."

Brownell said that eavesdropping on jury deliberations is inconsistent with the intent of the seventh amendment to the Constitution. Eastland says any violation of the sanctity of jury deliberation is a serious step, and that tampering with the jury system is likely to undermine the judicial structure.

We agree with both the Attorney-General and the Senator from Mississippi. We do not like to see jury deliberations recorded and hope that Congress will see to it that such studies, and research programs, will not be able to infringe on the privacy of jury deliberations.

If jurymen are to feel that their private deliberations might somehow be disclosed, or studied by research and study groups, they might not feel as free to speak out as would be the case otherwise. The time to stop this threat, or this possible trend, is before it gets started.

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As far as we have been able to determine, there is no case on record where an automobile ran into a train at a crossing and proceeded undamaged. Watch those crossings.

NOT IN LINCOLN'S BED

One of the most interesting passages in the Memoirs of Harry Truman is that concerned with the first visit of Mr. Truman's mother to Washington after he had become President.

This took place in May of 1945, and the Presidential plane, which was then the "Sacred Cow," was sent to Missouri to bring Mrs. Truman to Washington. It seems that some of the Trumans had warned the President's mother that she might have to sleep in the bed used by Abraham Lincoln.

Truman recalls that his mother said flatly that she would not use the same bed Lincoln had used, and that she would, if necessary, sleep on the floor. In addition, he recalls that his grandmother and his mother were greatly disturbed when he donned the blue uniform of the Missouri National Guard, as a young man.

His grandmother, upon seeing his new blue National Guard uniform, told him it was a beuatiful uniform, but never to wear it in the house again when she was around. All the uniforms in her house, she recalled, had been grey, and she did not like the blue.

It has been well known that Mr. Truman's mother was an ardent Southern sympathizer and that she disapproved of many of the President's "Fair Deal" doings while in the White House. However, Mr. Truman says that his mother never told him how to conduct his affairs while in the White House.

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THE QUESTION OF INABILITY

There is a chance that the question of inability may arise, concerning President Dwight D. Eisenhower, before January, 1957. Whether the question becomes a major problem will be determined by President Eisenhower's recovery.

The general opinion is that President Eisenhower will be able to resume many of his duties, if his reocvery is normal. If, however, he suffers a setback and is unable to continue his duties as President of the United States, which are most strenuous ones, these duties will devolve on the Vice President, who will then act as President, until the disability of the President is removed.

That should make it clear that if the Vice President is called upon to assume the duties of President, he will also be required to step down if the President is again able to assume these duties. In case anything happens to the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, who is now Sam Rayburn, of Texas, becomes President. Should anything happen to Rayburn, so that he would not be able to perform these duties, the next in line for the Presidency is Senator Walter F. George, of Georgia, who is Senate President Pro Tem.

Fourth in line for the Presidency is Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and fifth is Secretary of the Treasury, George M. Humphrey.

The question which remains to be answered, and which is not answered in the Constitution, concerning inability, is who shall decide that disability.

It seems clear that there is no specified authority to determine the inability of a President, such as the Supreme Court, or the Cabinet, or Congerss, and so on. Therefore, it will apparently be up to the President and his aides to declare the Chief Executive unable to perform his presidential duties if further setbacks should hinder the President's recovery. At the present time, this does not seem likely and there is a very excellent chance that the President will be able to live a comparatively normal life, without any ill effects, for many years to come.

* * * * * * *

This is the time of the year when you should appreciate the weather. There is nothing else you can do about it.

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The reason the average parent dodges the question of his child is that the average parent has never answered his own questions.

* * * * * * *

Putting off things we should do takes a lot of time.

WASHINGTON NOTES

CROP SUPPORTS LOSS

The Agriculture Department reported a record loss of $79,061,464 on Federal farm price support operations during the 1955 fiscal year. The loss for the year that ended June 30 was nearly double the loss in the 1954 fiscal year. Losses are incurred by giving away products for foreign and domestic aid, sales at less than cost and storage charges. The losses will have no effect on the current Federal budget because the money spent was included in previous budgets.

CITY TAXES

The tax "bite" of cities in the United States reached $64 per capita in 1954, according to a study by the Commerce Department's Bureau of the Census. Last year's figure compares with $61 in 1953 and $56 in 1952. The study covered 461 cities with populations of 25,000 or more.

NEW TAX FORM

New individual income tax forms and instructions, which will lack the tell tale colored stripes that adorned last year's forms, have come off the presses. The new forms embody some changes aimed at making things easier for the 60,000,000 individuals and couples expected to file returns by next April 15. One permits the taxpayer to round off all figures to the nearest dollar. Another change provides a short-cut for couples filing joint returns.

POSTAL DEFICIT

The Post Office Department ended the 1955 fiscal year on June 30, $362,700,000 in the red. The 1955 deficit was 47 per cent below the record deficit of the fiscal year 1952—$682,400,000 and was less than the deficit for the 1954 fiscal year, which was $364,900,000.

SURPLUS TO JAPAN

The United States has agreed to sell $65,800,000 worth of surplus agricultural commodities, including wheat, barley, tobacco, corn and other grain feeds, to Japan and will accept Japanese yen in payment. Most of the yen will, in turn, be lent to the Japanese Government to help in economic development and the rest will be used by the U. S. to buy goods in Japan for other friendly nations, educ[illegible] changes, agricultural [illegible] velopment, and for [illegible] American forces in the [illegible]

AIR ACADEMY TESTS

Competition for 300 [illegible] to the Air Force Academy [illegible] class is now open, accord[illegible] Air Force. The class star[illegible] Candidates must be at le[illegible] less than 22 years old [illegible] must never have been ma[illegible] must be physically qualif[illegible] ing. Members of the [illegible] reserve components of the [illegible] and Army may submit [illegible] to their organization [illegible] before House members a[illegible] nominating authorities [illegible] ceived by Jan. 31. Each [illegible] of Congress is authorized [illegible] nate ten youths and eight [illegible] cent of the class will be [illegible] from the Congressional [illegible]

CRIME DOWN

J. Edgar Hoover, direc[illegible] Federal Bureau of Investig[illegible] cently reported a slight [illegible] 0.8 per cent—in the nu[illegible] major crimes committed [illegible] first half of 1955, compa[illegible] the corresponding period [illegible] The drop was so slight [illegible] that Mr. Hoover said 1955 [illegible] be "the fourth consecutive [illegible] which more than 2,000,000 [illegible] crimes will have been co[illegible] A total of 1,128,350 maj[illegible] were reported in the [illegible] months of 1955.

TARIFF CUT

The United States will [illegible] the possibility of tariff [illegible] $2,000,000,000 worth of i[illegible] it bargains early next y[illegible] reciprocal concessions from [illegible] five other nations.

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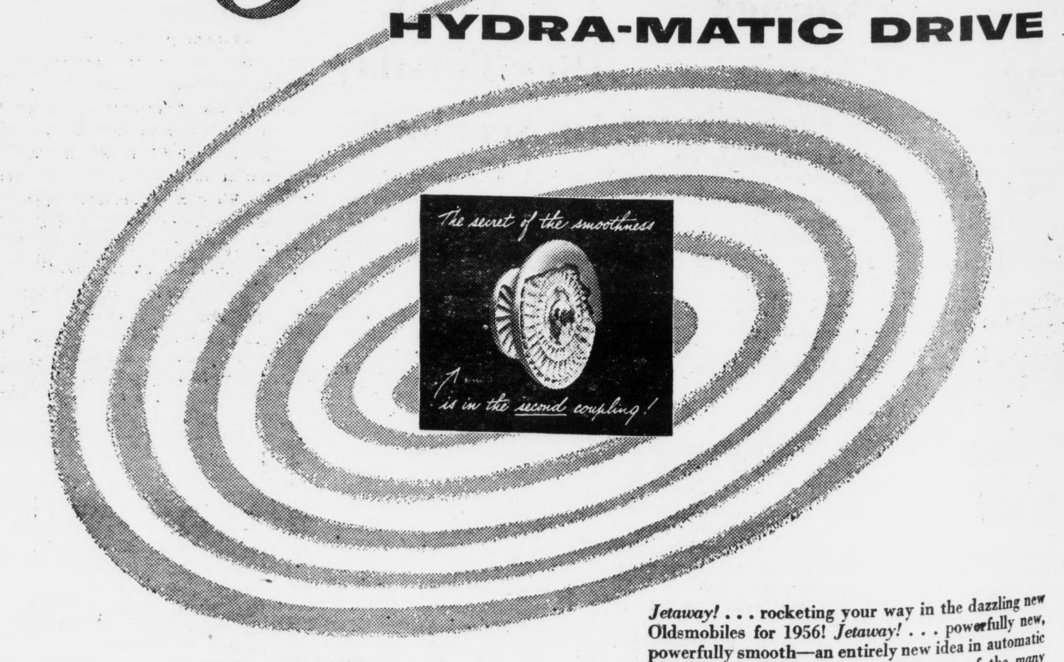

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From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Tie This One For Consideration—

Closed the office early last Saturday to go after pheasants with Pops Foster. I used fewer shells than the old gentleman and took home more birds—but *not* because I did better shooting.

I'd borrowed a dog for the occasion. Pops took along Blue, his ancient pointer. Several times I noticed Pops walk up to a clump of bushes Blue had pointed at and fire into the air—though he hadn't flushed a single bird.

Naturally, I wanted to know why. "Well," he said sheepishly, "I've been hunting with that dog for 11 seasons. His nose isn't much help any more—but I'd rather waste a shell than let him know."

From where I sit, Pops always shows consideration for *people*, too. For instance, this is a small thing, but he puts a bottle of beer on ice for me when I visit him—though he never takes anything but coffee himself. Even if he doesn't agree with me on a matter of personal choice (which is his right) he'd rather not make a "point" of letting me know.

Joe Marsh

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[F]ARM NEWS

[J.] A. Smith, County Agent

Garden Suggestions

[We] have some things we [would] like to do to our gardens if [we are] going to expect to have high [yields next] year. One thing that is [a good] idea, and should de done [in the] next few weeks, is to seed [the] garden spot down into a [cover crop] such as barley or rye, [at] the rate of 4 to 6 pounds [per 1000] square feet.

[If you] have some turnips or other [v]egetables planted, you can [sow the] cover crop right in the [middle of] the row. This will add or[ganic m]atter and help retain plant [food] for another year.

[After] you get this seeding done [be sure] to remove all trash and [weeds in] and around the garden as [this will] reduce insect and disease [problems] that will be in our gardens [next year].

[There] is one crop that needs [some] attention at present, and that [is as]paragus. The tops should be [cut] before they have stopped [growing or] have been killed by frost. [Asparagus bee]tles are a big problem in as[paragus] production. Therefore, the [use] of granular calcium cya[namide may] be applied to control broad[leaf weed]s. Apply one pound to 30 [feet of] row evenly in an 18-inch [band over] the row. Add a mulch of [manure] or straw, as this will increase [org]anic matter in the soil [for the] coming year.

[If you] haven't already done so, it [is a go]od idea to plant part of your [onion] crop this fall. Two varieties [that] do well are Ebenezer and [Yellow] Portugal. These should be [planted] at least 3 inches apart in rows 12 inches apart, and one inch deep.

If you want to remember what varieties of vegetables you planted this year, it might be a good idea to jot them down on a piece of paper, making notations about the quality, yield, when they matured, and other observations. This will enable you to select the variety that will do well in your garden next year.

Wilt-Resistant Mimosa

Homeowners have had some real problems in trying to maintain mimosa trees in their yards, for a number of years, as they have been dying from a disease referred to as wilt.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has released two new lines of mimosa that are wilt-resistant. They are known as "Charlotte" and "Tryon." Information coming to us indicates that several nurseries now have this stock available.

If your mimosa tree has died, we might say that symptoms of mimosa wilt are practically unmistakable. The diseased trees are characterized by wilting and yellowing of the foliage, and finally by death of the tree. When stems of affected plants are cut, a brownish discoloration is found in the wood under the bark. The source of fungus infection is the soil. This wilt fungus can be spread especially by moving infested soil or infected trees. Any ready means of transportation of soil, of course offers entry of infestation into your home grounds.

Bangs Eradication

The State Veterinarian Office is having some difficulty in maintaining sufficient funds to carry out the Bangs eradication program. In a meeting they held in Richmond with members of the livestock industry to discuss this matter, it was decided that indemnity payments for reactors would be reduced as follows: the grade cattle, from $25.00 to $10.00; pure breds, from $50.00 to $20.00. This is brought about in an effort to conserve funds whereby the program might be continued as far as possible. This reduction in payments is effective on and after October 1st, 1955. In addition to this it will be necessary to continue to require prior authorization from area veterinarians before any new herds are blood tested. The process you will go through is to contact your veterinarian and tell him, then he in turn will attempt to get authorization for your herd. However, calves may still be vaccinated without receiving authorization, and this is the one point, perhaps, in the Bangs eradication in Appomattox County that is falling somewhat behind. All calves should be vaccinated between four and eight months of age.

Hog Killing

You may not realize it, but hog killing on the farm is a big business in Virginia. For example, last year hogs killed at home were valued at 28 million 438 thousand dollars. Although this is a large income, we find that farmers are still losing over 1 million dollars annually in home-killed meat because of spoilage and insect infestations. Therefore, it is important that up-to-date methods are followed in order to save this amount.

There are three factors involved in killing and preserving meat on the home farm.

First, is Killing Weather Factor —The time of killing is important in order to preserve meat. Usually the best days of killing are the last days of November to the latter part of February. The weather should be cold enough to chill the carcasses overnight. It is best not to salt meat until it is chilled, and then a better job can be done when the meat has been properly chilled.

An advantage of killings hogs early in the season is that meat can be cured and stored before the skipper fly appears and this is usually during the first warm days in late February and early March.

In selecting animals for slaughter, well-finished, well-muscled, but not exceedingly fat hogs weighing from 200 to 250 pounds, are best for home use and for sale of cured products.

Losses in Lard— At present market, lard is retailing from 5 to 6c per pound below the liveweight price of hogs. For example, hogs are about 16¼c and lard is from 10 to 11c, so there isn't much point in producing heavy, over-fat hogs for slaughter. The percentage of fat will increase rapidly as the hogs go over 250 pounds and also the cost of gain per pound will increase as the hogs become heavier.

Hogs, of course, should be gaining in weight at the time of slaughter. Some points to remember in actual slaughter of the animal is to avoid getting the hogs excited before the killing as this prevents a good bleed and meat spoilage may result from this over-excitment.

After a hog has been slaughtered, the temperature of the water is important. If thermometers are available, the water should be at least 145 degrees, but not more than 150 degrees. High temperatures cause the hair to set and make the job of scraping more difficult. Sometimes high temperatures actually cook the meat. If no thermometer is available, a simple way to determine whether or not the temperature is correct is by use of the finger test. If the temperature is correct, the finger may be placed in the water two consecutive times but not three. If the finger can be placed in the water without too much pain the third time, additional heat should be applied.

The third step in caring for meat after it is slaughtered, is the curing. Briefly, we would say that curing meat is merely a race between germs that cause spoilage and the penetration of the salt. Quick-chilling the carcass, applying the proper amount of curing mixtures, and holding the temperature as near 38 or 40 degrees as possible, and the proper length of time in cure, all help to prevent spoilage and the result, of course, is a good edible product. Temperature cannot be controlled entirely without refrigeration, but meat can usually be cured in a place where it will not freeze or warm up too much.

Later on we will give recommendations on curing compounds and other suggestions for actual curing of the meat. In the meantime, if there are those who are interested and would like to have a bulletin, there are bulletins at the County Agent's Office, entitled "Curing Pork on the Farm." There is a very complete pubilcation giving the methods of curing the different cuts.

Home Orchards

For a number of years we have recommended that the average farm owner not attempt to plant apples and other fruits for home consumption as insect problems have been so great that it is extremely difficult to control. However, this is much easier now with all-purpose sprays on the market and power equipment for use on home grounds.

If there are those who would like to have a few apple trees on the home grounds, trees should be secured from a reliable nursery. Recommended varieties in order of ripening are: Transparent, Grimes Golden, Golden Delicious, and Yorking. Some limited use can be made of Stayman, Winesap and Rome Beauty. Varieties such as Stayman and Winesap will not pollinate themselves and therefore must be planted near Golden Delicious, Rome Beauty, Yorking, or Grimes Golden in order to get a set of fruit. Early maturing fruit trees are less likely to be seriously affetced by insects and diseases because of the shorter growing season.

In town where space is limited, dwarf or semi-dwarf trees may be planted. They are much smaller than the standard trees and may be planted as close as 10 to 12 feet apart. However, since the root system is small, the trees must be staked and tied to prevent blowing over in storms.

Stilbestrol

Many question have been asked by farmers for information concerning the use of stilbestrol in the feeding of cattle. Here are some recommendations that feeders will be interested in:

1. It is practical to use the various stilbestrol bearing supplements on the market for fattening beef cattle.

2. Cattle to which stelbestrol is fed should be cattle over 600 pounds and being fattened in dry lots for the slaughter market.

3. It is practical for feeding periods of 60 to 150 days.

4. 10 milligrams is the recommended daily dose of stilbestrol. It comes in 20% protein supplements with 5 milligrams of stilbestrol per pound, necessitating 2 pounds per head daily to supply the required 10 milligrams of stilbestrol. There are some 40% protein supplements which contain 10 milligrams of stilbestrol per pound and in this case only one pound of the supplement is necessary. With large cattle and non-legume roughages some additional protein is needed.

5. On the average one can expect 16% more gain with 13% less feed per pound of gain. Heifers will respond to stilbestrol only two-thirds as favorably as steers.

6. Once started, continue to use stilbestrol supplements until the cattle are ready for market.

7. Cattle do not get fat quicker as a result of stilbestrol but grow faster and more efficiently.

8. Successful experiments with stilbestrol on grass have been conducted at V. P. I. As yet these experiments have not been properly analyzed nor have results been checked with similar experiments in other states. These results will be available in the near future.

9. Do not feed stilbestrol to breeding cattle, feeder or stocker cattle. It is for fattening cattle only.

COUGHS UP MARBLE

Joliet, Ill.- After having her tonsils removed, Charlene Pitts, 6, coughed up a marble she swallowed two and a half years before. The girl's mother, Mrs. John Pitts, recalled that Charlene had swallowed a marble while palying a game she had received as a Christmas pre-

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